



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
West Virginia Field Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 8, 2019

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MAY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production during May 2019 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was down 1 percent from May 2018. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 609,000 pounds live weight, down 2 percent from May 2018. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 32 pounds from the previous year, at 1,072 pounds.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 142,000 pounds live weight, down 7 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, unchanged from the previous year. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

United States – Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.57 billion pounds in May, up 1 percent from the 4.50 billion pounds produced in May 2018.

Beef production, at 2.33 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.94 million head, up 1 percent from May 2018. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 1,316 pounds.

Veal production totaled 6.3 million pounds, 1 percent below May a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 46,200 head, down 1 percent from May 2018. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from last year, at 236 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.22 billion pounds, up 2 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 10.4 million head, up 1 percent from May 2018. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 287 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.4 million pounds, was down 2 percent from May 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 209,200 head, 4 percent above last year. The average live weight was 128 pounds, down 8 pounds from May a year ago.

January to May 2019 commercial red meat production was 22.4 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2018. Accumulated beef production was up 1 percent from last year, veal was down 1 percent, pork was up 3 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 1 percent.

May 2018 contained 23 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.